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North Shore Jibes Continue

By Lois Martin

My stars and garters, when will it cease. This wearing, worrisome namecalling of folks on the South Shore by our neighbors gracing the North Shore continues.

Once again Tony Chamberlain of Duxbury has been constrained, like a weapon that self-destructs, to bring forward the high-nosed opinions of the northerners. This time the Globe carried his story about our yacht clubs as viewed by Marbleheaders. And in that solid coastal niche, more rocky than beachy, a woman referred to our yacht clubs as being "legion halls without liquor."

Who told? Who started that lusterless rumor? When was that woman included in a South Shore event? Did someone forget to offer her a drink or did they feel she'd had plenty?

We know there are differences between the two shores. That's why we're here. But to be taken to task for lack of quality in our yachts, our clubs and our sailors is upsetting.

Let's get to it right off. We do indeed have yacht clubs on the South Shore. They do have liquor available. And it's not consumed out of a bottle shielded in a paper bag. Our yachtsmen have handsome crafts as well as navigational skills that help them skirt treacherous northern shores.

And for heaven's sake. What did the legion ever do to deserve inclusion in the insult? Isn't it enough they're blemished with the tag of Legionnaires disease? Our American Legion is a proud organization, halls of its own and with trophies that'll match what they've got hanging in the swell environs of the elite.

The disheartening piece was included on the recreation page, making it lighter substance than the obituary section to be sure. And Chamberlain gently chides, as best a South Shore resident is able, the prestigious for its purist views in sailing.

But the dagger of message is still there, couched with further jabs at our restaurants, our entertainment, even our which Lord knows is not fill trucked in from Revere.

I've wracked my brain to remember class up north where I've been an occasional guest.

Anyway I know they've got nice girlie shows on the Saugus thoroughfare. And if I remember correctly the numerous health spas are available to keep North Shoresmen in shape with on request massages.

Still, between the lines of the recurring indictments, I get the feeling the South Shore is seen as inferior because we don't have the snobs they do. That's the heart of the matter. Somehow in reproducing down here we've had a genetic loss of snobs.

We have people who are distinguishing, discerning, even excluding. But, I've come up

with too few to satisfy what's called the purist requirement. Town meeting dress, for example, tends to be casual in some of our communities. But, women have removed hair curlers before the gavel sounds.

There's an eclectic air to the South Shore. We have a broad spectrum of humanity contributing to a culture that embraces the masses even from Marblehead as it works to establish a fit gateway to the Cape.

But don't misunderstand me. We've got people down here who won't speak to you. There are some who so cherish their element they won't be bothered with yours.

Rather than leave any stone unturned, however, I struck out on a snob search, gleaned various opinions from people, none of whom believed they were snobs.

It was generally conceded that Duxbury has enough snobs and Cohasset has at least a few. However, Rockland and Abington are viewed as being snob free. It is suspected there are snobs in Marshfield but since they wouldn't speak with us I wasn't able to verify it.

Studies show some people long to be snobs, seeing that as an end in itself to superiority. But there's an element of would be snobs who can't quite get the hang of it and lapse into an acceptance of people no true snob would abide.

Snobs are defined as people who make other people uncomfortable, by sheer determination. And one woman said they have a "maddening to the point of being laughable" impact on society. This same woman conceded she has among her friends one snob. But that's because the woman wasn't always a snob and their friendship has somehow managed to ride out the unsettling waves of one person being superior to the other. There's a speech pattern, she said, prerequisite to being an authentic snob as opposed to a phoney one. "Have you been to that charming little restaurant on the far side of Bermuda," I'm told is the way to do it.

This theory, though, is in direct contrast to the opinion of another interviewee who maintains snobbery is congenital. She bases that on her acquaintanceship with a snob "who was born that way."

At any rate, it is agreed the South Shore has plenty of snobs. We're not inclined to import them apparently. And strangely enough while the snob is known as someone making someone else uncomfortable, the consensus says class makes others comfortable.

But snobs can be appealing, especially when they live on the North Shore.

And we're disposed to have them visit as they will, meandering the gentler Rte 3 as a repose from Rte. 1. We take everybody here and we politely overlook superiority wherever necessary.

SS Chamber Group Plans Auditions

On Wednesday, Sept. 19, the south Shore String Chamber Orchestra will hold audi-

tions for the second season for violin, viola, cello, and bass for students age 12 - 18, at the Martinson Middle School on Forest St. in Marshfield, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Students may apply from any South Shore communities. Auditioners should prepare a solo and scales and be prepared to sight-read. Rehearsals will be every Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Martinson School, starting Sept. 26.

The Orchestra was established in 1978 by co-directors Candace Kniffen and Susan C. Sylvester to meet the needs of

advanced string players on the South Shore. Anyone interested in auditioning should contact Mrs. Sylvester at 837-2307 or Mrs. Kniffen at 293-3147 before Sept. 14.

Scouts in CARE

Girls Scouts, U.S.A. has been elected a member agency of CARE, it was announced by Leon Blum, CARE's New England Regional Director.



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